

**WHEREAS** the high cost of housing in this region coupled with increases in winter heating costs has intensified the financial difficulties that some individuals in our community will encounter; and

**WHEREAS** Rockville residents have a history of showing concern for their neighbors, particularly during the November and December holiday season; and

**WHEREAS** the City of Rockville has sponsored an annual holiday food and toy giving campaign for nearly 35 years; and

**WHEREAS** the City is fortunate to have the support of many partners, including Manna Food Center, Toys for Tots and the Montgomery County Volunteer Center to assist with the distribution of holiday baskets to Rockville individuals and families in need;

**WHEREAS** the City enjoys the continuing support of local schools, civic organizations, businesses, and the faith community through their generous contributions of food, gifts, and monetary donations; and

**WHEREAS** many individuals who live or work in Rockville perform a key role by volunteering their time to see that local seniors and families receive food for Thanksgiving and gifts in December;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Susan R. Hoffmann, Mayor, along with the Council of Rockville, do hereby proclaim the commencement of the 2008 Rockville Holiday Drive and urge all residents to "Take Part and Give From the Heart."

  
Mayor Susan Hoffmann

  
Councilmember John B. Britton

  
Councilmember Piotr Gajewski

  
Councilmember Phyllis Marcuccio

  
Councilmember Anne M. Robbins

October 20, 2008